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Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Soundings

Northwest Washington

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Open Wide Your Heart

by Pastor G. Lee Kluth
Trinity Lutheran Church, Everett

"What a joy to hear first hand experiences of those who have seen it." "What an inspiration."

These are just two of the many positive comments received after a day of thoughtfuldiscussion at the most recent NWWA Global Mission Awareness Event.

David Dennison and Said Ailabouni from the ELCA Division for Global Mission were the presenters. Dennison and Ailabouni were able to give the attendees a greater awareness of the difficult problems around the globe and how our help and support are badly needed. They encouraged our Synod to continue with similar events but to also try to inspire pastors, associates in ministry, and lay leaders to catch the joy.

Members of the NWWA Synod Council were able to participate in some of the discussion since a Council meeting was being held in the same location.

"We need to balance what we believe with how we live," said Dennison.

A special thank you to Sharon Daoura, Faith Lutheran, Lakewood, who coordinated the event. Sharon was assisted by members of the Global Mission Committee and members from Our Savior's, Everett. If you have any questions, call me at 425-252-1239.

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"You Will Be My Witnesses"

(Jesus, Acts 1:8)

by Bishop Don Maier

I have a favorite definition of what it means to be a witness: witnesses represent Jesus and make Jesus present where they are.

These days where we live, no one can assume that Jesus is well known. Don't assume that your neighbors know Jesus. Don't assume that Jesus is known in your work place. Does Jesus want to be known by your neighbors, in your work place? Yes. Definitely yes! That's where we, the baptized members of the Body of Christ, come in. It is through his beloved that Jesus makes himself known.

Sometimes, we can bring the gentle spirit of Jesus to a situation. Sometimes, we can inject forgiveness into the situation, as the Lord has done. Sometimes, we can get down in the servant posture and bring a touch of comfort and healing to the sick, the weary and the outcast. And, sometimes, we can simply mention the name of Jesus as we do those things.

When I sit with leaders of our church's social ministry agencies, I ask: do you make it a point to mention the name of Jesus as you do your good works? Do the people you serve associate your service with Jesus? Don't' assume they will if we don't mention the Name.

So with you, dear reader, where you are, where you work, when you stoop to serve, when you inject gentleness, when you suggest forgiveness. Do not fear and do not forget to mention his Name. No long speeches. No airtight arguments. Simply say the Name.

"Alive In Christ"

More than 1,400 pastors and lay leaders of the ELCA gathered in November in Orlando, FL, to participate in the "Alive in Christ: Equipping Congregations for the 21st Century". This event was sponsored by the ELCA's Division for Congregational Ministries.

Speakers from our region were Bishop Don Maier and Susan Briehl, Holden Village Co-Director. More than 90 people from our region and Synod attended the event including committee chairs and members.

Rev. Wyvetta Bullock and the Rev. Mark Moller-Gunderson presented a summary of effective ministry:

- 42 percent of ELCA congregations significantly changed their worship style in the last two years. Congregations open to new styles of worship are more likely to grow in worship attendance.
- Half of new members become inactive in their first year.
- Effective congregations focus on education, especially education of the young; plan effectively, and include all members in the plan; share leadership and build strong partnerships; and know their community and are known in the community.

Called to Common Mission:

A Lutheran Proposal for a Revision of the Concordat Agreement by the Lutheran/Episcopal Task Force

A revised draft of *Called to Common Mission* has been released for review and comment prior to its consideration by the 1999 Churchwide Assembly. To facilitate discussion on this important issue, the Lutheran/Episcopal Task Force is establishing a series of three forums, (one north, one central, and one south) where the revised draft will be discussed. These three forums will take place in February and March, 1999. The purpose of these forums is to help everyone understand the issues involved with the proposal, from both the pro and con perspectives.

To prepare for these forums, a copy of the revised draft of *Called to Common Mission* and other pertinent information was mailed to all Synod rostered clergy and Associates in Ministry. This should have been reproduced and distributed to Church leaders and those associated with your adult education program. We had asked for you to review and discuss the material. An on-line copy of the revised draft of *Called to Common Mission*, along with associated reference materials, is located at the ELCA Department for Ecumenical Affairs home page on the web at www.elca.org/ea.

The discussion forums are:

- On Sunday, Feb. 2, at Nativity, Renton, at 3 p.m.
- On Sunday, Feb. 28 at Burlington, Burlington, at 3 p.m.
- On Sunday, March 14 at Trinity, Lynnwood, at 3 p.m.

If you have any questions please contact Fritz Baesman, a member of the Lutheran/Episcopal Task Force, at 425.237.6725 (w); 253.854.4071 (h), or baesman@gte.net.

Bishop's Convocation

By attending the January Bishop's Convocation you will hear two eloquent speakers share their insights relating to mental health issues.

"Pastoral Care of Persons with Mental Illness" will take place from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on Thursday, Jan.14 at Christ, Edmonds. The speakers for this event are Mary Mohler, MSN, ARNP, CS; and Craig Rennebohm, Mental Health Chaplain, Seattle.

Mary is CEO of Psychiatric Rehabilitation Nurses in the Spokane area. She will bring the world of the mentally ill into understandable terms and is aware of helpful approaches to disturbed people.

Craig's office is the streets of Seattle. With his caring manner he is able to help those who are mentally and who live on the streets. He works for the Church Council of Greater Seattle.

This convocation is sponsored by NWWA Mental Health Subcommittee.

You too can Advertise

Are you wanting to make your church better known through marketing but do not feel you have the expertise, money, or information to do it?

You can learn how to market your church by attending three workshops at Partners for Nurture on Saturday, Jan. 30, at Lutheran Bible Institute, Issaquah. The workshops are: media, hospitality, and identity.

The media workshop will give you valuable information about what makes a good story, how to write press releases, and how to contact the media.

The hospitality workshop will give you some simple things to do to make newcomers really feel welcome.

The identity workshop will share the information from the ELCA national multimedia campaign. This was campaign was developed to raise awareness of the Lutheran church among people not associated with any church and to reinforce positive views of the ELCA among its members. The kit includes newspaper ads and direct mail pieces; and television, radio, and outdoor advertisements.

The NWWA Communications Committee will share their expertise and give you information about how you can receive matching dollars.

Please see the flyer enclosed in this newsletter for more information.

Contact Margit Peiffle at 360-403-9870 or at peifflepr@aol.com for more information.

LOGA Legislative Update

The December issue of LOGA's Legislative Update is now available on the LOGA Web site at www.loga.org.

The issue reports on key legislation of the 105th Congress and looks ahead to issues the 106th will be taking up in January: campaign finance reform, landmines, the HUD budget, refugees, child care, social funding, and much more.

In The City For Good

The ELCA is pleased to announce the first-year process for urban ministry grants from the *In The City for Good Fund.*

Call the NWWA Synod office for applications and material to determine whether your program, project, or ministry qualifies for this grant. Applications are due by Jan. 31, 1999.

Interns Needed

If you are interested in exploring a career in refugee/asylum work or social issues consider the Howard and Edna Hong Internship Program. This is a one-year, three part internship.

The intern will work at the Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service (LIRS) headquarters in NY, will be placed at a local refugee resettlement office or LIRS-supported asylum project, will be given field work, and will work with LIRS director for government affairs in Washington, DC.

For more information contact Darlene Midlang, Director for Planning and Development, LIRS, at 212-532-6350 or e-mail at DMidlang@lirs.org.

Applications are due by January 30.

Letters From Listeners

Tacoma: I was listening to Lutheran Vespers on KIRO while getting ready for church. My 6 1/2 year old son was also listening. He was completely taken with Mr. Wangerin's story "In the Beginning There Was No Sky," and as soon as it was over he asked me to rewind the tape and play it again!

—Becky Metcalf

You, too, can listen to Walt Wangarin on Lutheran Vespers every Sunday at 7:30 a.m. on KIRO Radio. If you would like to know how you can sponsor a show please contact Margit Peiffle, NWWA Communication Specialist at 360-403-9870 or at peifflepr@aol.com.

Scholarships Available

Students interested in applying for Lutheran Brotherhood scholarships, Federal Stafford Student Loans, or seminary awards/seminary sabbatical fellowships for the 1999-2000 academic year are encouraged to act soon.

The **deadline** for Lutheran Brotherhood Member Scholarships is **Jan. 15, 1999**. Award amounts for these merit-based scholarships are determined by the type of institution that the student chooses to attend.

For more information, contact the Great Northwest Agency serving NWWA Synod at 1-800-585-5884.

English As A Second Language

A grassroots movement has begun to train Lutheran congregations to welcome newly arrived immigrants using instruction in English as a Second Language (ESL). "Listening Posts" have already been held in Bellevue, Richland, and Tacoma. Plans are now underway for training ESL teachers from our congregations.

NWWA will have an opportunity to attend one of these sessions on Saturday, Jan. 23, at Lutheran Bible Institute, Issaquah.

Contact Pastor Peter Lai at the Region 1 Office at 206-624-0093 for more information.

Global Mission Tool Kits

All ELCA congregations will receive a copy of the 1999 Global Mission Tool Kit, a new resource form the Division for Global Mission, designed to make it easier for congregations to plan and implement global missions activities.

The Took Kit provides ready-to-use, easy-to -execute activities for worship, stewardship, education, and global mission festival events. Congregations can mix and match its 18 activities to develop a calendar of events that meets their global missions needs. All activities are keyed to theme of the 1999 Global Mission Events, "Walking Together Into the Next Century."

If you have any questions, contact Rev. David Lerseth at 1-800-639-3522, ext. 2641, or e-mail at dlerseth@elca.org.

Calling All Boomers

Calling all Single Lutheran Boomers for a Social Night on New Year's Eve. The festivities start at 7 p.m. at Denny Park, Seattle. Finger food potluck. Plenty of parking. View of Space Needle's

Symposium To Explore

The Apocalypse and the New Millennium

"Christ and The New Millennium: A Lutheran View of the Apocalypse" is the them for the third annual Northwest Theological Symposium to be held at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 9, at Lutheran Bible Institute, Issaquah.

Dr. Robert Smith, professor of New Testament at Pacific Lutheran Theological Symposium in Berkeley, Calif, and editor of Preaching Helps will be the guest speaker.

Cost is $20 per person if registration is received before January 15 or $25 if after January 15. Contact PLU Office of Church Relations at 253-535-7423 or e-mail at crel@plu.edu for more information.

Puerto Rico Celebrates

More than 1,000 people in Puerto Rico gathered together to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Lutheran presence in Puerto Rico through a festive worship service. The two-hour service combined the history of the island and its people, who are a combination of Taino (original inhabitants), European (Spain), and African races.

Called To Proclaim The Name

Mark your calendars for the upcoming Global Mission Awareness Event from 11:45 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 6, at the Lutheran Bible Institute, Issaquah.

"Called To Proclaim The Name" offers attendees a series of workshops that include speakers such as Cindy Kopperstad, Dan Rush, Dr. Patricia Larsen, and Dr. B.J. Prashantham.

Cost is $5, payable at the door.

Women Retreat

Women from around the Synod will be able to hear some fascinating information and be able to worship together at the NWWA Women of the ELCA retreat on Feb. 5 and 6, 1999, at Camp Brotherhood, Mount Vernon. Jennifer Johnson, ARNP, psychiatric nurse, is the guest presenter and will be sharing information on "Aging—A Spiritual Journey". For registration and more information please call 360-652-8739.

Giving To Others Near and Far

After a lot of hard work members of First Evangelical, Bothell, can feel proud of what they accomplished. They sent to Lutheran World Relief and to local charities a total of 1,381 pounds of items for those in need; 253 quilts; 28 pounds of soap; 15 health kits; 75 sweaters; and 190 pounds of clothing.

Chanting For The Millennium

Fog rises from the floor and lights move around the sanctuary. Ethereal sounds from a guitar, flute, vocals, and keyboard call back and forth to each other.

A gong sounds three times followed by a voice crying out, "Lord, I call to you. Come quickly to me. Hear my voice when I call to you."

The voice splits into five parts and chants, "Angels of God, guide us through the night and keep us from the powers of darkness."

This will be how the congregation at Luther Memorial, Seattle, brings in the new year. On New Year's Eve from 11 p.m. until midnight, the group Street Life will usher in the last year of the millennium with their techno chant, "Vespers To The Angels". It is a unique blend of techno sounds, chang, poetry, and jazz composed as a vespers service.

Tickets are $6 and may be purchased by calling Luther Memorial at 206-364-2510 or at the door the evening of the event. Doors open at 10:30 p.m. Luther Memorial is located at 13047 Greenwood Avenue North, Seattle.

Women of the ELCA

The Fourth Triennial Convention of Women of the ELCA will be held in St. Louis, Missouri, on July 8 through 11. The Theme for the event is: "Live God's Justice." Organizers expect more than 5,000 women to attend the event.

Rev. Martinson To Speak

by Pastor Jim Schoeld

Roland Martinson, BA, BD, STD, and Professor of Pastoral Care at Luther Seminary will preach and speak at Bethel of Shoreline, Shoreline.

Rev. Martinson will speak about family ministry and the realities of living our faith in the diverse cultural milieu that now surrounds us at 7:15 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 15, and Saturday, Jan. 16. He will also preach on Sunday morning. We have asked him to consider these engagements as opportunities to be evangelical, Christ-centered, enthusiastic, and practical.

There is no cost for the event.

Dr. Martinson has been invited to Bethel to help the congregation begin their 50th year celebration with inspiration and encouragement as they look forward to perpetuating the local church into the next generation and century.

Martinson spoke at the 1998 NWWA Synod Assembly in Bellingham.

First Things First

A one-day personal management seminar will be held on Tuesday, Jan. 26, at Luther Memorial, Seattle. This seminar is a personal management tool developed by Stephen R. Covey, author of the well known book, "The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People".

Cost is $75 for materials including lunch. Contact Donene Blair at 206-783-9292 at the Synod office for more information or registration.

Smart Living—

Let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly

The ELCA has set the dates for the 1999 national tour of stewardship seminars. The seminar is scheduled for the Puget Sound Region from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, March 20, at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church in Olympia.

This seminar will help attendees examine new and effective strategies for "every member visits," how to organize and run a simple and effective visit-based financial response program, how to revitalize your congregation through stewardship relational visits, and how to use relational visits to increase giving.

Cost is $55 for the first congregation participant, $45 for the second and third congregation participant, and $40 for each additional participant from that same congregation.

For more information call Tammy Tyson at 1-800-638-3522, ext. 2536, or visit the web page at www.elca.org.

Worship and Music

Church musicians, pastors, and lay leaders, and worship planners are invited to retreat at Holden Village from March 15 through 19 at Holden Village called "Living Liturgy."

Presenters and workshop leaders include Marty Haugen; musical group Bread for the Journey members Tom Witt and Mary Preus; and Daniel Erlander and Susan Briehl.

Topics include: theology of worship, worship planning, the role of preaching at the Eucharist, the role of lay worship leaders and church musicians, and creative ways to connect to the seasons of the liturgical year.

Cost is $167 and includes all program costs, four nights stay in the Village, all meals, and roundtrip bus trip to Holden from the Lucerne dock on Lake Chelan. Price does not include the round-trip boat trip from Chelan ($19). For more information write to: Holden Village, HCOO-Stop 2, Chelan, WA 98816-9769.

Global Mission Opportunity

by Rev. Ben Bretheim, Global Mission Committee Member

Your Synod Global Mission Committee is planning to help two visitors come to the Northwest from our companion Synod in the Northern Work Area, Ethiopia. It is our hope that they will be able to visit many of our Northwest Washington Synod congregations throughout the months leading up to the Synod Assembly in June. Everyone is urged to help us reach a minimum of $3200 for their airfare and additional expenses.

Please send you January special offerings to Region 1 treasury for Ethiopia fund in care of Alyce Bakker at 766B John St., Seattle, WA 98109-5186.

If you need additional information please contact Pastor G. Lee Kluth at Trinity, Everett, at 425-252-1239 or Rev. Ben Bretheim at 206-275-2017.

Festival of Life Sr. High Week at LBI

Festival of Life '99 is a summer youth event where over 100 Sr. High teens and their leaders converge on the Lutheran Bible Institute campus in Issaquah for a week of fun, fellowship, and spiritual growth. It is an opportunity to make new friends, to grow closer as a youth group, and to encounter Christ in a new way. The theme of this years Festival of Life is "Called by Name," based on Isaiah 43:1. Encourage your youth group to be at Festival of Life 1999. They won't be disappointed! This years date's for the Sr. High week are July 17-21, 1999.

For more information, please call Prof. Audrey Forbes at (425) 961-5541 or e-mail aforbes@lbi.edu.

Fun and Fellowship

On Friday, the day after Thanksgiving, the high school youth from Our Savior's, Everett, escaped the wrath of perpetual turkey sandwiches and attended the Northwest Youth Gathering. This year, it was right here in Seattle. Twelve high schoolers and four helpers partook of the faith, fellowship, and fun of the three-day event. The gathering was a good warm-up for the giant Western States gathering this coming summer.

Focus on Youth & Family Ministry

Sponsored by Region 1 and the Lutheran Bible Institute, the annual Focus on Youth & Family Ministry (FOYM) event, held on the LBI campus, will explore different models of confirmation. Reserve February 26-27 on your calendar. Check out the information in your "Justabouteverythingpages." Contact call Prof. Sue Houglum at (425) 961-5532 or e-mail houglum@lbi.edu for more information.

God, can you hear me?

The Lord's Prayer will be the focus of a week of fun and fellowship, discovery and discussion for confirmation age youth (6th-8th graders) from July 6-10, 1999 at the Lutheran Bible Institute in Issaquah. This programs is designed to fulfill both the content component of a confirmation camp as well as provide a great experience for Jr. High youth groups.

For more information, please call Prof. Sue Houglum at (425) 961-5532 or e-mail houglum@lbi.edu.

"Finders Weepers, Losers Keepers—Registration Now Open

Registration is now open for the Western States youth gathering on June 30 through July 6 in Seattle. "Finders Weepers, Losers Keepers" is based on Matthew 16:24-26. Information is available on the web site at www.wsyg.com.

Junior High Rally

If you enjoy the highschool gatherings that NW WOLY puts on for youth, but wish that there were more opportunities for junior high youth, then this gathering is for you. On February 5 and 6, 1999 NW WOLY will be holding its first ever junior high rally at Trinity Lutheran Church, Lynnwood.

The theme is "Grow Up" and is based on Ephesians 3:15: "Instead, by speaking the truth in a spirit of love, we must grow up in every way to Christ who is head."

Through games, speakers, and workshops, participants will explore issues of Christianity and how to strengthen their faith through a time in their lives where going to church may not be a "cool" thing to do.

The cost for this two-day event is $25, includes food and gathering supplies. **Registration deadline is January 15.** To register, please contact Shannon Miller at 425-743-1329. You may also contact the co-chairs of this event: Katie Peterson at 253-639-7581 or Renee Martinson at 425-228-3725.

Planning Ahead

Members of Faith, Seattle, are planning early. The Social Concerns Committee are sponsoring a youth and adult Habitat for Humanity project in Yakima on July 19 - 25. This is just one of the many Social Concerns activities planned for 1999.

Nurse Needed

Holden Village has an immediate opening for a nurse to provide health care and education for staff and guests. The nurse manages all aspects of the first aid station. A current Washington State Registered Nurse License is required along with basic cardiac life support certification. Sharp assessment skills, good nursing judgement and ability to work independently are essential.

For an application or more information write to: Staff Coordinator, Holden Village, HCOO Stop 2, Chelan, WA 98816. Holden Village has no direct telephone service.

Congregational Ministry Assistant

The Region 1 office of the ELCA is seeking to fill the full-time staff position of Congregational Ministry Assistant.

This person will work with two Congregational Ministry Coordinators (CMC) to provide secretarial support for all needs related to the CMCs, and support services for the development and maintenance of the projects, events, and networks related directly to the CMCs.

Attention to detail, good written and oral communication skills, and good computer skills are desired. Experience in working with multicultural ministries and/or youth and family ministries is beneficial.

Applications will be accepted until Dec. 31. To receive an application contact the Region 1 Office at 206-624-0093.

Within Our Family

Prayers for strength and healing for...

† **Norm Folkers** with his continued illness.

† **Pastor Paul and Christine Fauske** on the death of her mother in November.

† The family of **Rev. Roger R. Kahle,** an international journalist who covered Lutheran issues and events for 35 years, who died on Dec. 1. Kahle was managing editor of The Lutheran magazine and president of the Associated Church Press.

† The family of **Dr. Carl Voltz,** Professor of Church History at Luther Seminary, who died Dec. 3. Prof. Volz had taught at Luther Seminary since 1974 and before that for ten years at Concordia Seminary in St. Louis. He was ordained in the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod in 1959.

Congratulations to...

† In July 1998 **Marilyn Bode** submitted the name of **Ron McNeil** to receive the US Conference of Mayors' End Hunger Award. Both are members of Immanuel, Seattle. McNeil has worked as both a staff person and as a volunteer for the past 14 years coordinating the Immanuel food bank, planning and cooking a community lunch every Wednesday for 200 people, and shopping for the residents of Immanuel's Transitional Shelter. On October 12, McNeil received a certificate of nomination at an awards ceremony in Seattle.

† **Dr. Daniel Tsui,** a graduate of Augustana College, Rock Island, Ill, received the Nobel Prize for Physics. Tsui is the Arthur LeGrand Doty Professor of Electrical Engineering at Princeton University, Princeton, NJ. Tsui came to Augustana in 1958 from Henan, China. He graduated from Augustana in 1961.

† After 31 years of compassionate vision and leadership, **Ron Jacobson** is stepping down as President of Compass Health and entering the world of retirement. Ron was chair of the planning group that organized the NWWA Synod, he was named the 1993 Everett Centennial Citizen of the Year, and is active service and civic organizations.

News and Notes

■ Congratulations to **Trinity Lutheran Church in Everett.** They will be celebrating their 95 anniversary on January 24, 1999.

■ **The Bishop's Chrism Mass** is scheduled for 11 a.m. on Tuesday, March 30, at Bethell of Shoreline, Shoreline.

■ **The Compass Center,** Seattle, has opened a new hygiene center at in the basement of their 77 South Washington location. The hygiene center serves 175 people a day. Though the Compass Center no longer takes used clothing, they are in desperate of towels and single bed sheets.

■ **First Lutheran of Richmond Beach, Shoreline,** has a Home Page. The address is: http://flcrb.home.ml.org.

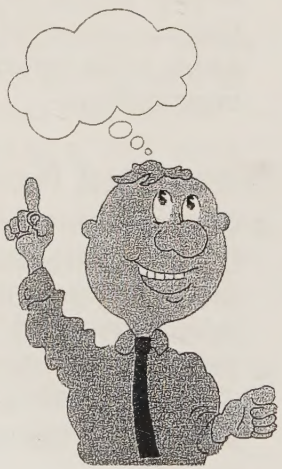
Sharing Information With Each Other

By Margit Peiffle, NWWA Communication Specialist

Mark your calendars for the upcoming Soundings and The Spirit deadlines. Copy is due to Margit Peiffle or the Synod office on:

- February 1999 Issue—Monday, Jan 4
- March 1999—Monday, Feb 1
- April 1999—Monday, March 1

In January you will receive your new issue of The Lutheran and it will include the Northwest Washington Synod supplement. Enjoy reading about Miracle Sunday at Advent, Mill Creek, and find out about how our Synod reaches out to students who attend the University of Washington and Western Washington University.



Do you have a story idea for the next supplement? The next Northwest Washington supplement will be printed in the April issue. Please send ideas for this April 1999 issue by Monday, Jan 6.

Thanks for all your help.

(Margit can be reached at 21721 88th Ave NE, Arlington, WA 98223; 360-403-9870 phone; 360-435-5955 fax; e-mail: peifflepr@aol.com or to Margit Peiffle on LutherLink)

New Look

Have you noticed a few changes in Soundings? My hope is that these changes will give the newsletter a more interesting look, and make the articles and information easier to read. I hope that you enjoy these updates.

To try to meet the needs of the different congregations, you now can find Soundings and The Spirit on the NWWA Home Page. Check it out at www.lutheransnw.org. If you have any comments or suggestions please contact Margit Peiffle at 360-403-9870 or peifflepr@aol.com.

Soundings

News and information of the

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The Rev. Donald Maier, Bishop
The Rev. Dr. James Moy, Assistant to the Bishop
Donene Blair, Executive Assistant
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A ministry partner with the Northern Work Area, Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus